1. (Once Amended) A method for coding a speech signal comprising:

estimating a spectral content of a speech signal by determining a defined reference spectral response representative of the spectral content of the speech signal;

selecting a preferential coding algorithm from an assortment of coding algorithms based on the estimated spectral content of the speech signal;

coding the speech signal in accordance with the selected coding algorithm, where the selected algorithm may control the operation of at least one of a preprocessing filter, a post-processing filter, a coding control coefficient, a weighting filter, a synthesis filter, and a quantization table.

10. (Once Amended) A method for coding a speech signal, the method comprising:

estimating a spectral content of a speech signal by determining a defined reference spectral response representative of the spectral content of the speech signal;

varying at least one coding parameter based on the estimated spectral content of the speech signal; and

coding the speech signal in accordance with the varied coding parameter, the varied coding parameter associated with at least one of a preprocessing filter, a post-processing filter, a coding control coefficient, a weighting filter, a synthesis filter, and a quantization table.

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